## Council on Postsecondary Education January 30, 2006

## **Committee on Equal Opportunities Report**

Following is the status of initiatives and recurring activities related to the implementation of the Kentucky Plan for Equal Opportunities, the partnership with the U.S. Department of Education Office for Civil Rights and the Committee on Equal Opportunities.

- The Committee on Equal Opportunities meeting dates for 2006 are February 20, April 17, June 19, August 15, and October 16. All meetings are tentatively scheduled to be held in Frankfort.
- The U.S. Department of Education Office for Civil Rights agreed to amend the partnership agreement November 1, 2005, to support a request by Kentucky State University to construct new student housing rather than renovate Young Hall dormitory. A feasibility study has been completed and the university is now designing the new housing facilities and anticipates completion and occupancy in 2007. The amendment will fulfill the requirements of Commitment A.2.(a) of the Partnership Agreement.
- The U.S. Department of Education Office for Civil Rights, Council staff, and KSU representatives conducted a review of Kentucky State University's facilities November 16, 2005, as part of its final review of the status of the partnership.
- The Committee on Equal Opportunities requested special interim reports by the University of Kentucky and the Kentucky Community and Technical College System regarding the actions being taken by the respective institutions to address the recent downturn in enrollment of African Americans as first-time freshmen.
- The Committee on Equal Opportunities issued a request for proposals to conduct a statewide diversity assessment to support the development of a new Kentucky Plan for Equal Opportunities or a diversity plan.